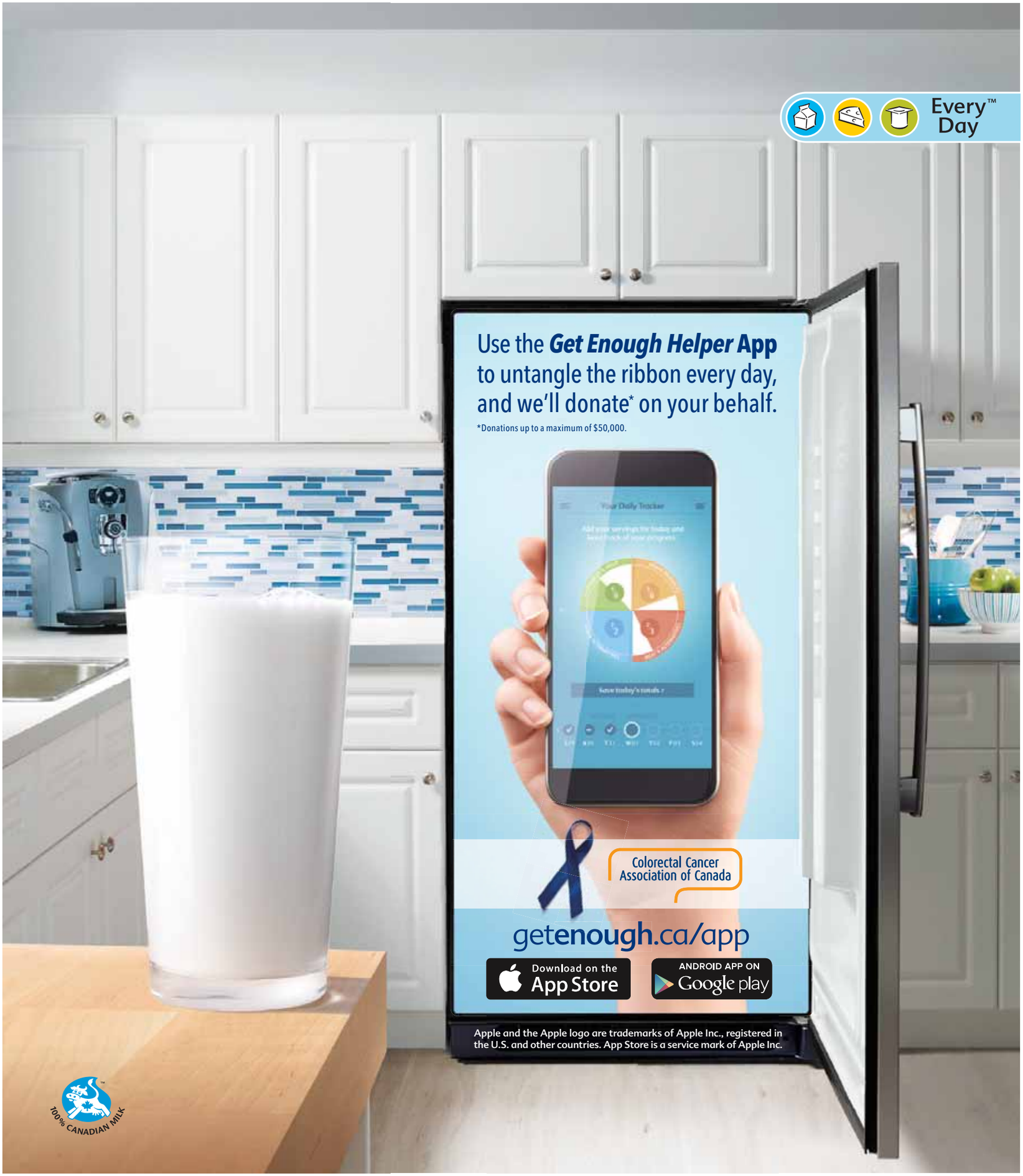
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Banking on boost

RBC moving 150 new jobs into old Blackberry building PAGE 5

HALIFAX metro®

NEWS WORTH SHARING.





'THE STARS ALIGNED ON THIS ONE'

Quake Matthews, who released the album Rap Music earlier this year, poses for a photo in downtown Halifax this week. The Fairview rapper is making a name for himself on the Canadian music scene, with even Drake acknowledging his talents. Story, page 7. JEFF HARPER/METRO

Jail has 'plan in place'

Burnside. Justice dept. says action being taken after latest serious assault



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A 19-year-old man was suffering from life-threatening injuries Wednesday after another serious assault at the Burnside jail, but a provincial justice department spokesman says there is a "plan in place" to work through their current issues.

Around 10:40 p.m. Tuesday, Halifax Regional Police said there was an assault between two offenders sharing the same cell and the victim, a Lower Sackville man, suffered life-threatening injuries and was rushed to hospital.

Andrew Preeper, spokesman for the Department of Justice, said staff responded immediately to the assault. He also said there is no indication a weapon was used.

Halifax police have a 20-year-old man in custody as a suspect but as of Wednesday evening there was no word on any charges.

Tuesday's assault comes as the latest in a string of violent assaults at the jail, as well as the early release of an inmate in December and the mistaken release of another man in November.

Progressive Conservative justice critic Allan MacMaster was calling on Wednesday for an independent review of the facility.

There are no plans for such a review, Preeper said, especially since the 2015-16 capital plan released in December set aside $6.2 million in security upgrades and renovations.

Preeper said from those funds, $4 million will go towards creating a "direct supervision model" where a correctional officer works in each unit. "That model is shown to greatly reduce incidences within the facility," Preeper said.

"The issues that have been facing Burnside have been known, and there's currently a plan in place to address them."

Besides the renovations, Preeper said the jail has a new management team and recruiting policy.

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Bike lane project creates division at open house

Debate. Four-block long protected bicycle lane would be a first for the city

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A cyclist heads along a string of parked cars on University Avenue on Wednesday. Discussion over a protected bike lane on University Avenue puts two groups on opposite sides of the street. JEFF HARPER/METRO

The discussion of a protected bike lane on University Avenue puts two groups on opposite sides of the street.

Avid cyclists and those wanting more commuters on two wheels instead of four say it's a great start. They say a protected bike lane, separated from vehicular traffic by plastic bollards every four metres, is what this city needs.

But others, like Marcia McIntyre, said the bike lane comes at too high a cost. Three accessible parking spots will be moved further down University Avenue and five others will be moved about a block away on the Killam Loop.

"It shouldn't be that the disabled get thrown under the bus for a bike lane," she said at a public information session at Dalhousie Wednesday night.

The city hosted the session to inform the public and collect their thoughts on the pilot project. Dalhousie, with partner funding from the province, wanted to install the bike lane last summer.

Halifax Regional Council was initially in favour, but then switched gears and sent it to a public consultation and a staff report.

At a glance

- Dalhousie University and the province are funding the $200,000 project.
- Taxi stands and accessible parking spots would be relocated.
- The city would lose $70,000 in annual revenue from 24 metered spots that would be eliminated.

Well-known hot dog vendor Jerry Reddick — better known as the Dawgfather — had previously launched legal action to stop the bike lane from encroaching on his business.

City staff will present their findings to council by the end of next month, and if approved the bike lane could be installed as early as May.

Dave MacIsaac, supervisor of transportation demand management, said there is excitement about the first protected bike lane east of Montreal.

"And we're hearing concerns from folks about the relocation of accessible parking spots," he said. "We want to make sure we get those right."

Cyclist Brent Miller, a scuffed bike helmet swinging from his backpack, was curious enough about the project to drop in on Wednesday's session. Miller bikes to school every day — but during his eight-minute ride, he's only on University Avenue for a few seconds.

Protected bike lanes would make a bigger impact on streets like Robie or Windsor, he suggested.

"I'll take it for now. It's a good start but for a solid, concrete permanent project more research (is needed)."



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Councillors ponder price of patching up city's potholes

Infrastructure. HRM managers say new product will help stretch dollars and tackle this year's crop


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As the municipality gears up its pothole-fighting efforts for the spring season, Halifax councillors are wondering — and worrying — about what it will take to keep the roads in half-decent condition.

"I worry that our maintenance and street recapitalization is falling behind, when I look at the quality of the roads right now," Coun. Waye Mason said during budget deliberations Wednesday.

Council's committee of the whole got an overview of the capital budget, which includes a projected $30 million for recapitalization of streets and roads in 2016-17.

There's $25 million in the 2015-16 budget, which Mason called "aggressive" — but he worried it wasn't enough.

"Other cities, facing the kind of potholes that we've ben facing, have been having to bite the bullet and really increase both patching and recapitalization," he said.

Coun. Tim Outhit echoed Mason's concerns, noting that an aggressive patching campaign was halted last year when the municipality had to find a new source of funding for pothole repair.

"We had a bad year for potholes," he said. "There is no reason to think this year is going to be any better, based on the weather and also the fact that we've had to do so much work ... to get rid of the ice."

Senior staff told the committee they're confident there's sufficient funding in the budget to tackle this year's crop of potholes.

The municipality is using a new patching substance this year that's shown good results so far, according to the superintendent of streets and sidewalks.

Aquaphalt is a water-based compound containing a smaller grade of gravel than conventional cold mix, and Donnie Pellerine said its bonding ability in cold weather is far superior to cold mix.

"Everything we've seen so far that we've put in place has stayed in place, so that's the battle when you're fighting the pothole game," he said Wednesday after the meeting.

By the numbers

400

The municipality's weekly target for pothole patching.



A car approaches a pothole on Bayers Road coming off Highway 102 in Halifax. JEFF HARPER/METRO

Budget includes plans for Beazley Field, bikeway

Halifax councillors have approved a plan to get the ball rolling on some major capital projects in the 2015-16 municipal budget.

Council asked staff in December to prepare a report on the options for including upgrades to Beazley Field, bikeway connections for the MacDonald Bridge and refurbishing the St. Mary's Boat Club in upcoming budgets.

On Wednesday, staff presented council's committee of the whole with a proposal to begin planning for all three projects this year, with $35,500 allocated for a site plan development of Beazley Field and the surrounding area.

Coun. Darren Fisher said he's pleased to see the ball rolling on upgrades for the field and a plan for developing it and the neighbouring community centre into more of a regional "recreation campus."

"Staff seem to be very much on board with looking at Beazley under a big umbrella of what all the issues might be instead of just putting a Band-Aid on things," he said.

City staff will return to council once the site plan has been completed with a project plan and budget.

City staff will also begin developing options, including budget implications, for bikeway connections on both sides of the MacDonald Bridge.

Coun. Jennifer Watts tabled an amendment to require a progress report by July 31 on the preferred option for proceeding with the project.

"My concern is ... that we don't end up in budget discussions next year saying we still don't have information. If we have a preferred option, (we need) to begin to really look at debating that for the next year's 2016-17 budget," she said. RUTH DAVENPORT/METRO

Turf field

Councillors also approved $100,000 for design work on the new artificial turf field in Cole Harbour. Construction will begin in 2016.



Darren Doucette of Dartmouth Moosehead Dry connects for a home run at Beazley Field. METRO FILE

Highway 7

Police investigating after blaze destroys empty home

Police in Halifax are investigating the cause of a fire that destroyed a vacant home over the weekend.

Early Sunday morning, RCMP and Halifax Fire responded to a house fire in the 28,000 block of Highway 7.

The house was completely engulfed and was unoccupied at the time, police say.

An investigation determined it had been vacant for some time.

Police are asking for the public's help in identifying the cause of the fire, and tips that lead to an arrest could result in a cash award from $50 to $2,000. METRO

Collisions

Dozens of people hit by vehicles so far this year

More than 40 collisions occurred between vehicles and pedestrians in HRM over the past two months, according to the latest vehicle/pedestrian report by Halifax Regional Police and RCMP.

Police say that 24 of the incidents were reported in January and 14 in February.

The report shows the number of collisions continues to decline since last December, when 39 were reported. Police also say last month saw 12 fewer collisions than February 2014.

Of the 41 incidents this year, police say three involved bicycles while the other 38 were between pedestrians and vehicles. METRO

Court

Cocaine dealer gets jail time

A 54-year-old Sydney Mines man who pleaded guilty to selling cocaine to support his own habit was sentenced Wednesday to a two-year federal sentence.

Darrel Thomas MacKinnon of Legatto Street is also banned from possessing firearms for 10 years and must also submit a DNA sample to the national registry.

The sentence imposed by provincial court Judge David Ryan was recommended by the federal Crown. MacKinnon's defence lawyer had recommended a conditional sentence, which would have allowed MacKinnon to serve his time in the community under strict conditions. METRO



An RBC sign hangs outside the Harbourside Centre in downtown Halifax on Wednesday. JEFF HARPER/METRO

RBC bringing 150 new jobs to region

Economy. Bank to open 'finance shared services centre' in former Blackberry building in Bedford



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About a year and a half after Blackberry pulled out of its Bedford location, RBC is moving 150 new jobs into the same building.

On Wednesday, RBC and Nova Scotia Business Inc. (NSBI) announced the bank would open a new "finance shared services centre" in April to support digital image cheque processing operations and other finance and accounting services at 50 Innovation Dr. as part of a $22-million incentive agreement with the province.

RBC will immediately begin recruiting for 150 new positions to be filled before the end of the year, according to Roger Howard, RBC's regional president of the Atlantic provinces.

"Those 150 will bring $7.5 million in salaries once fully staffed, so it's a great, healthy addition to the Nova Scotia economy," Howard said Wednesday.

NSBI said they have been working with RBC for the past year and the agreement estimates "the potential for up to 500 new jobs within 10 years."

In the agreement, RBC is eligible for up to $22 million in payroll rebates through NSBI's Strategic Investment Funds.

When asked how likely it is those 500 jobs will land here, Howard said the focus is on getting the 150 positions "up and running" for this year.

"It certainly does depend on our future requirements to support the growth of the business, but we'll always continue to look at opportunities," he said.

Howard said 90 of the 150 jobs are for digital image cheque processing, with the remainder in accounts-payable and finance roles.

Last November, the Armour Group announced they would spend $200 million on expanding the Innovation Drive building (where Bell Aliant and IBM Canada still reside after Blackberry left in October 2013) from 50,000 square feet to 120,000 as part of the future EON Square project, with seven new office buildings and a hotel.

Howard said the location has the technology and infrastructure they need, while their new Waterside building is at capacity.

Quoted

"This is so exciting for us and certainly for Nova Scotia as well." Roger Howard

RBC news 'fantastic' and a 'great boost': Councillor


This building in Bedford will be home to the RBC processing centre. JEFF HARPER/METRO

Tim Outhit is more than happy about the news that RBC will be moving 150 new employees into the old RIM building in Bedford, as part of a new digital cheque processing centre.

"It's fantastic," the councillor for Bedford-Wentworth said Wednesday. "Lots of good jobs right away and the location just makes so much sense."

Since the Blackberry maker moved out in October 2013, cutting hundreds of jobs along the way, the huge building has been sorely underused. IBM and Bell Aliant are current tenants, but the complex has capacity for hundreds more employees.

"As far as I know, it was never at full capacity even when RIM was there," Outhit said, adding that the RBC news fits into a larger vision for the growing area.

"We're looking for infrastructure and transit improvements in that area," he said. "This is a great boost."

Progressive Conservative finance critic Tim Houston said the provincial Opposition isn't in a position to judge the deal because there is a lack of public information on what factors were considered and what competing incentives were offered.

"We're trying to answer the question of why it took $22 million of taxpayer money to get them to come here.… We don't know enough details to know if it's a good deal," he said.

"A lot of people are scratching their head today, asking, 'Why does it have to work like this?'"

NDP Leader Maureen MacDonald said the deal shows the Liberal government's promises not to provide subsidies to large corporations were false.

But she wouldn't comment on whether the New Democrats, who authorized similar payroll rebates to major companies when in government, opposed or supported the bank deal.

BRAEDON CLARK/FOR METRO
WITH FILES FROM THE CANADIAN PRESS



Fighting for the right to grow pot



Debbie Stultz-Giffin and Bob Dillman speak at Farm Assists, a cannabis dispensary on Gottingen Street, during a news conference Wednesday. Dillman uses medical marijuana for arthritis and back pain. JEFF HARPER/METRO

Medical marijuana. Bob Dillman says he can't afford dispensaries but was arrested for growing at home

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To hear Bob Dillman tell it, all he wants to do is grow cannabis at home.

The only problem is that the federal government doesn't think he should be able to do that.

Dillman said he and his wife were arrested at their home on March 4. He said he is charged with possessing and producing cannabis, charges that he vehemently objects to.

"It's all about bureaucracy and money, not common sense," Dillman said on Wednesday afternoon at a news conference at Farm Assists, a cannabis dispensary on Gottingen Street in Halifax.

Arrest made

Halifax police won't confirm whether charges have been laid against Bob Dillman because information has not been sworn in court. But they say they did arrest a man at an address where Dillman says he lives.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Dillman was joined by Debbie Stultz-Giffin of Maritimers Unite for Medical Marijuana Society (MUMM), who spoke out about the need for people like Dillman to be able to grow their own cannabis.

"Now he's forced to choose between his health and his freedom," Stultz-Giffin said, listing a variety of ailments that Dillman suffers from, including arthritis and back pain.

According to Stultz-Giffin, only cannabis has proven to be an effective treatment for Dillman.

"I have to be able to grow my own," Dillman said, arguing that cost and health concerns make him unable to purchase cannabis through dispensaries.

Dillman and others are closely watching a court decision in British Columbia, where the question of home production of cannabis is being debated.

A March 2014 injunction by the B.C. court temporarily allowed home production for those with a valid licence.

Dillman's licence expired in February 2014, meaning he didn't have a valid licence when the injunction was granted and wasn't eligible to continue growing cannabis at home, though that didn't stop him.

In his mind, it's an unjust situation with no solution.

"Shame on the government," he said with obvious disgust. "I have no options here."

Dillman is scheduled to appear in court in early April, where he will learn what sentence he could face if convicted.





Rapper Quake Matthews in downtown Halifax. JEFF HARPER/METRO

Quake shakes up rap music scene

New album. Quake Matthews' Rap Music features local artists such as Dylan Guthro, Neon Dreams and Ghettochild


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Quake Matthews has come a long way from his days doodling his future album covers in a junior high classroom in Fairview.

The rapper is poised to become Halifax's next breakthrough rap star.

Matthews' new album Rap Music, released earlier this year, recently hit No. 4 on the Canadian iTunes hip-hop charts, behind the likes of Nicki Minaj and J. Cole.

He's even caught the ear of Canadian rap superstar Drake, who recently praised his hugely successful 2014 hit Summertime Win at the King of the Dot rap battle in Toronto.

"It was big to know my music is reaching someone of that magnitude," Matthews said in his downtown apartment overlooking Argyle Street.

Matthews is only 26, but he's been rapping for more than a decade.

When he was younger, he would sneak into the room of his babysitter's older brother and listen to R-rated rap artists like Snoop Dogg, KRS-One and Tupac Shakur.

"This one time I brought a mixtape back and my mom found it and listened to it and freaked out," he said with a laugh. "But that's how I got into it."

Soon enough, Matthews was making his own music, producing makeshift records by rapping into a stereo and drawing his own album art.

"It's always been a passion of mine," said Matthews, clad head to toe in black, his dark hair closely cropped.

By age 16, Matthews was spitting rhymes and recording at Classified's house with a hip-hop group.

He has three other solo albums under his belt. Rap Music is the culmination of those works, he said.

"If those three albums had a kid, it would be this," said Matthews. "It's basically me trimming the fat and realizing who I am as a person and what my sound is. The stars aligned on this one."

Rap Music is an anthem for young Haligonians, chronicling the lifestyle and struggles of the city's 20-somethings through captivating hip-hop beats.

The 13-track album features a wide variety of local artists, including electronic dance music group Neon Dreams and singer-songwriter Dylan Guthro, who sings and plays on the album.

The infectious Helluva opens with Guthro's smoldering voice, leading into a head-bobbing beat that instills an urge to call up a friend for a night on the town.

On Picket Fence, Matthews describes the duality of his youth growing up in Fairview with thugs and jocks.

"One night I would be hanging out playing beer pong in a frat-like environment and the next night I'd be hanging around people who are involved in underworld activities," said Matthews.

"I felt like I was in the middle of it all and I could relate to both sides of it."

Fairview has always been a major inspiration for Matthews.

"I got to be around so many different walks of life. It taught me to adapt and relate to a wide variety of people," he said.

"Everyone from Fairview has a certain sense of pride and unity."

Quoted

"I try to go for a vague human emotion so no matter what walk of life you come from, you can appreciate the music and know where I'm coming from."

Quake Matthews



Lawyers of couple charged in Miller murder request time for psych tests

Catie Miller. Jason James Johnson and Kelly MacDonald due back in court April 17 following brief appearance



Catie Miller FACEBOOK PHOTO



Jason James Johnson is escorted from Dartmouth provincial court in November. Inset: Kelly MacDonald leaves Dartmouth provincial court last year. JEFF HARPER/METRO; INSET: JEFF HARPER/METRO

Two people charged in the murder of Catie Miller made brief appearances in Dartmouth provincial court on Wednesday as their lawyers asked for time to have psychiatric assessments conducted.

Jason James Johnson and Kelly MacDonald were escorted into court, where defence lawyers asked for time to find a doctor to conduct the tests.

The two will next appear in court on April 17.

Johnson and MacDonald have been charged with first-degree murder in connection with the death of Catie Miller. The 29-year-old Miller disappeared on July 15 of last year, the same day that police say she was killed.

Police have also said that MacDonald and Miller were known to each other.

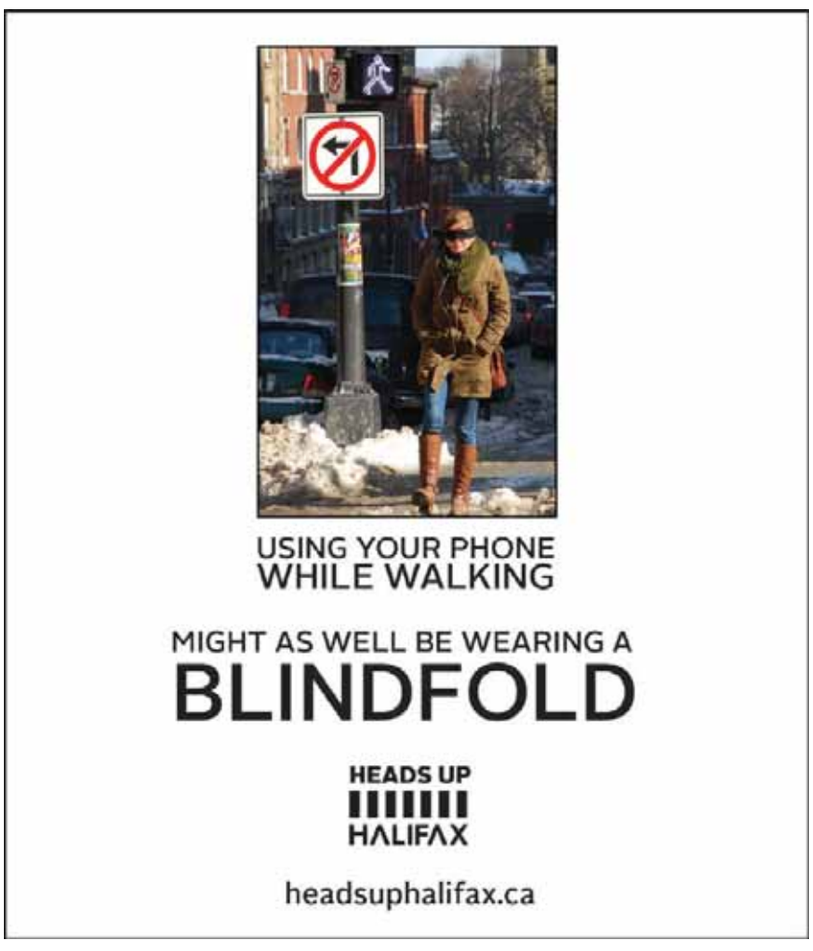
Investigators working at one of the four crime scenes connected to Miller's murder found human remains Nov. 26. They were then sent to the Nova Scotia Medical Examiner Service for identification.

George Edward Hubley, 30, of Sheet Harbour Passage, also faces charges of accessory to murder after the fact and indecently interfering with a dead human body in relation to the case.

BRAEDON CLARK/FOR METRO

Catie Miller murder

Neither Jason James Johnson nor Kelly MacDonald said anything during their court appearance on Wednesday, which lasted no more than five minutes.



Mom upset at justice system as son is transferred from jail to jail



Debbie Rudderham held a protest Tuesday at the Sydney Justice Centre. CAPE BRETON POST

Frustrated by the justice system, a Cape Breton mother took her concerns to the street this week, staging a protest at the Sydney Justice Centre.

Debbie Rudderham of Edwardsville is angered that her 20-year-old son, Tyler, keeps being moved among correctional facilities in the province.

"He's being treated like a pawn in horrible chess game," said Rudderham.

She said her son has been in the Cape Breton Correctional Centre, the newly opened Northeast correctional facility in Pictou and the Central Nova facility in Burnside since his arrest last September.

On Tuesday, Rudderham was notified her son was again moved to the Central facility in Pictou.

"They keep moving him around but not the others. It's not right," said Rudderham, adding it does appear her son is being singled out.

Tyler Roland Rudderham is facing some 40 charges including seven counts of uttering threats, five counts of assault, three counts of sexual assault, three counts of forcible confinement, and nine counts of breaching court orders.

He was previously denied bail and has elected to be tried in provincial court.

A trial is now scheduled for May 4. He is also scheduled to appear in court April 1 for a status update to determine if the Crown and defence are ready to proceed with the trial.

It is a common practice within corrections to move offenders among facilities for such reasons as reducing overcrowding or removing potential threats of violence.

"I don't think my son's case has fallen through the cracks but it has been pushed," said Rudderham, adding she does plan to continue her protest.

CAPE BRETON POST

Frustrated parent

Debbie Rudderham's frustration is accented by the death of her husband and 32-year-old son a few years ago and she now feels the justice system may take another of her children.

Polling. Liberals still lead big in Nova Scotia

Justin Trudeau's Liberals are the choice of more than half of Nova Scotians surveyed in a recent poll.

The Corporate Research Associates poll, released on Wednesday, shows the Liberals with 56 per cent support, compared to 26 per cent for the Conservatives, almost no change from three months ago.

NDP support was pegged at 14 per cent, with the Greens at four per cent.

Four in 10 residents surveyed are undecided, refuse to state a preference or plan not to vote.

Among leaders, Trudeau is preferred by four in 10, while Prime Minister Stephen Harper is supported by 19 per cent. NDP Leader Thomas Mulcair is at 14 per cent, with Green Leader Elizabeth May at six per cent.

A federal election is scheduled for Oct. 19, but there's speculation it could come sooner, even sometime this spring. METRO



Among leaders, Liberal Leader Justin Trudeau is preferred by four in 10 Nova Scotians surveyed in a recent poll. THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE



This one's no fish story; it's a whale of a tale

Raina the Halifax Mermaid waves to Chantelle Brown, left, and Sam MacPherson during a media preview of March Break at Sea! at the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic on Wednesday. The museum will feature poems and stories from Raina the Mermaid as well as Puppet at Sea Theatre shows and underwater creatures and exploration with Shipwreck Ahoy! from March 14 to 22. JEFF HARPER/METRO

Briar Lane

Demolition to close down lane

Briar Lane in downtown Halifax will be closed to pedestrians and traffic for "an extended period" while the old CBC Radio building at 5600 Sackville St. is demolished.

The closure will begin Friday and is scheduled to last until April 30. Briar Lane will be closed between Sackville and Annandale streets. METRO

Policing

Mounties seek community input

RCMP in Halifax will host a series of community consultations this month to help set their policing priorities. The first session takes place Thursday from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at St. Andrew's Church in Timberlea.

"We want to hear directly from the citizens we serve because their views are important to us," says Chief Supt. Roland Wells in a statement. METRO



Major storm may or may not hit: 'A lot of uncertainty,' expert says

Weather. Social media abuzz about possible weekend blast



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Many Haligonians have been worried about rumours of a big snowstorm headed this way on Sunday, but Environment Canada says we should cool down.

On Wednesday, meteorologist Tracey Talbot said it's unclear whether a system developing over the Great Lakes will come close enough to make an impact as it tracks south of Nova Scotia on Sunday.

"There's a lot of uncertainty whether or not we'll even get anything from it at all," Talbot said.



A driveway gets plowed out after a recent winter storm. JEFF HARPER/METRO

The possible storm has been getting attention from Cape Breton's popular amateur weatherman, Frankie MacDonald, who posted one of his famous YouTube weather forecasts about the storm.

The video has since been shared by many on social media.

Talbot said if the system tracks close to land Halifax could get "a good dumping of snow" but, if it tracks just a little further south, we won't see a snowflake.

It's too far out to tell where the system might go, Talbot said, and right now the American and Canadian weather models aren't even synchronizing.

However, Talbot said, we may not see any snow if the system stays far south of the province. There would be more cold air over Nova Scotia instead.

Spring not in the air yet

The temperatures will likely remain hovering around zero degrees for the next couple of weeks, so it's not likely the city will see a significant warming trend yet, but meteorologist Tracey Talbot said "hopefully" by end of March, temperatures will start to seem more spring-like.

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WORKOPOLIS
Let's get to work

Parking ban returns, thanks to melting snow

The overnight parking ban was on again Thursday as the city was hoping to take advantage of warmer temperatures to clear melting snow and ice.

On Wednesday, the city said they would be enforcing the ban from 1 to 6 a.m. Thursday, ending a stretch of three days without after it was in effect for two straight weeks.

It began raining early Wednesday in most parts of the region and temperatures were forecast to rise as high as 8 C.

Enforcement

The overnight winter parking ban is in effect until March 31, but is enforced only during declared snow and ice events and snow removal operations.

"With these conditions, the municipality is expecting significant melting on the streets and sidewalks and will take advantage today and overnight to continue scraping the ice pack from residential side streets," the release said.

Including Thursday, the ban will have been enforced 32 times so far this year, compared to 14 times overall last winter. METRO

Crime

Two charged in Truro car thefts

A 20-year-old man from Cole Harbour and a 14-year-old boy from Dartmouth were arrested in Truro this week in relation to stolen vehicles.

At around noon on Tuesday, Truro Police Service responded to Logan Street in search of a stolen vehicle, which had been stolen from Archibald Street Sunday evening.

From the investigation, two male individuals were arrested at a Logan Street residence and two stolen vehicles were subsequently recovered: a 1996 GMC Sonoma that had been stolen from Archibald Street, and a 2012 Dodge Ram that had been stolen from Three Mile Plains.

The 20-year-old is facing a charge of possession of stolen property for the GMC Sonoma, as well as breaching court orders.

The teenager is charged with possession of stolen property for the Dodge Ram truck, public mischief (providing a false name to police), and two charges of breaching a probation order. TRURO DAILY NEWS

Safety

Guardrail ends removed from approved vendors

Nova Scotia's Department of Transportation has removed a brand of guardrail ends from its list of approved vendors, citing safety concerns.

Trinity Highway's ET Plus System, used on roads throughout North America, is under increased scrutiny after claims that newer versions of the terminals were untested and unsafe. TRANSCONTINENTAL MEDIA



Dalhousie University dentistry student Ryan Millet. JEFF HARPER/METRO

Restorative justice brings scrutiny

Dalhousie. But there are supporters too as dental students come under spotlight for offensive Facebook page

Dalhousie University's use of restorative justice to deal with misogynistic Facebook posts is being called a "game-changer" by a leading expert in the field as others question whether it was the right approach.

With the male dentistry students involved in the case being allowed to return to clinical practice from suspensions, those critical of the Halifax university's handling of the controversy have expressed reservations at a lack of public accountability surrounding restorative justice.

But proponents of restorative justice say those questions are based on a misunderstanding of the process. Brenda Morrison, director of the Centre for Restorative Justice at British Columbia's Simon Fraser University, commended the school's administration for taking action that went against the public outcry for conventional disciplinary measures.

"I'm in awe of the level of commitment, courage, compassion and time that Dalhousie has been willing to give this process," said Morrison, who has supported the process at Dalhousie by answering questions from facilitators. "I think this particular case will be a game-changer."

The school in Halifax suspended 13 fourth-year male students about two months ago for being members of a Facebook page that contained sexually violent content about female classmates.

University president Richard Florizone later announced that the male students and female students who were targeted in the posts would participate in a restorative justice process, which uses an informal and confidential resolution procedure that includes all of the parties involved.

Morrison said there is plenty of research supporting restorative justice programs at the grade-school level in the United States outside the justice system, where the process originated, but it hasn't made it to universities.

"In Canada, Dalhousie is in the lead," she said, adding she believes the school's approach will become a benchmark for other universities.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Quoted

"It gives us the opportunity to look at the broader picture at the same time as we're addressing the very important and significant individual issues. It doesn't force us to choose."

Jennifer Llewellyn, a professor of law at Dalhousie University

The Superstore

Man apologizes to court over drunken gun incident

A 50-year-old man who caused a public commotion when he was spotted in the vicinity of the Superstore last April carrying a rifle has apologized to the citizens of Yarmouth, saying it wasn't his intention to hurt or frighten anyone.

Stacey Eugene Beals was intoxicated when the incident occurred, but still, he told Supreme Court Justice Richard Coughlan this week he should have known better. "I'm sorry, I apologize to the citizens of Yarmouth . . . my intentions were not to harm anybody, it wasn't something that was premeditated," Beals said. "Looking back in retrospect, I can't think of a more stupid act that I've committed. I'm very sorry."

The RCMP were called to the vicinity of Charles Crosby Drive and the Atlantic Superstore on April 26, 2014, after receiving multiple calls from the public about a man seen walking around carrying a gun. The Superstore and the adjoining NSLC briefly went into lockdown.

At the time Beals was arrested, he was sitting on the ground with the gun within reach.

The gun — a Mossberg International 22-calibre bolt action rifle — turned out not to be loaded.

Beals was sentenced to a total of 23 months in jail after previously pleading guilty to counts of carrying a firearm in a careless manner, stealing a rifle, and breaching court orders by having a firearm in his possession while prohibited and consuming alcohol.

YARMOUTH VANGUARD



Pakistani man accused of terror plot

Toronto. Jahanzeb Malik is suspected of plotting to blow up the U.S. consulate and other buildings

A Pakistani man Canadian authorities suspect of plotting to blow up the U.S. consulate and buildings in Toronto's financial district and videotape the attacks was ordered kept in custody on Wednesday pending deportation.

Jahanzeb Malik, who came to Canada as a student in 2004, was ordered detained on "security grounds" following a hearing before the Immigration and Refugee Board.

The Canada Border Services Agency arrested Malik, 33, on Monday in Toronto following a lengthy investigation by Canadian security and anti-terrorism personnel, Public Safety Minister Steven Blaney said in Ottawa.

At the hearing Wednesday, Jessica Lourenco, a lawyer for the immigration minister, said an undercover RCMP officer befriended Malik.

"Malik attempted to radicalize the undercover officer by showing him videos apparently of (Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant) beheadings," Lourenco alleged.

"He told the undercover officer about his plan to build remote-controlled bombs to blow up the U.S. consulate and other buildings in the financial district of Toronto."

Lourenco accused Malik, who has travelled frequently between Canada and Pakistan, of planning to videotape the bombings to encourage others to carry out similar attacks.

Canadian authorities allege Malik to be a self-proclaimed supporter of ISIL who also claims to be a "personal friend" of American Anwar Al-Awlaki, a top-ranking member of the terrorist organization al-Qaida who was killed in Yemen by a U.S. drone strike.

They also say he has taken "weapons, combat and landmine training" in Libya.

In opting to keep him in custody, the board member presiding over the hearing determined Malik, a permanent resident since 2009, to be a flight risk and a public danger.

The border agency said it expected more information because the investigation was still ongoing.

Blaney refused to comment on "operational matters" but said the RCMP had made it clear it believes Malik was "willing to commit a terrorist attack on Canadian soil." THE CANADIAN PRESS



Hearing at risk for Lac-Mégantic train driver: Lawyer

Former Montreal Maine and Atlantic Railway Ltd. employees Tom Harding, right, Jean Demaitre, centre, and Richard Labrie are escorted by police to appear in court in Lac-Mégantic, Que., on May 13, 2014. The lawyer for Harding, the train driver charged in the deadly Lac-Mégantic disaster, says Crown prosecutors are seeking to prevent his client from having a preliminary inquiry. The three men are each facing 47 counts of criminal negligence causing death — one for each victim of the July 2013 oil-train derailment. A conviction carries a maximum life sentence. Last May, the three men each posted $15,000 bail after appearing in a Lac-Mégantic courtroom. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canadian imams shun ISIL, supporters

A group of Canadian imams is condemning followers of the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) as non-Muslims and "outsiders" to the faith.

Imam Syed Soharwardy and 37 other Muslim leaders from across the country have issued an Islamic edict called a fatwa against the militant group currently trying to attract supporters to its war in Syria and Iraq.

Soharwardy, the founder of the Islamic Supreme Council of Canada, said Wednesday that ISIL is violating Muslim law. As a result, the group and anyone supporting them will no longer be considered Muslim.

Middle East

Several Canadian youth have already gone to the Middle East to fight for ISIL. Ottawa's national-security report said at the start of 2014 there were more than 130 individuals abroad and suspected of terror activities.

"They have been excommunicated from the Muslim community, and those who will join them, they should be excommunicated from the Muslim community and they cannot be considered as Muslims at all," said Soharwardy.

The imams and Islamic scholars are from Vancouver, Montreal, Edmonton and Toronto and include representatives of the different sects within the Muslim religion, he said.

Soharwardy cited several acts that violate Islamic law, including capturing opponents and beheading them, killing Muslims who disagree with their actions, destroying mosques, burning enemy soldiers alive and encouraging Muslim girls to join them.

Soharwardy hopes the message gets out to young people who are most at risk of being recruited.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Treasury board president backs PM Harper on face-covering veils

Treasury Board President Tony Clement says banning the wearing of face-covering veils during citizenship ceremonies is necessary to assert Canadian values of gender equality and openness.

But he says it's not necessary to impose those same values in the workplace or in other spheres of life. Federal public servants, for instance, are not barred from wearing the niqab, a garment that covers the face, leaving only the eyes exposed.

Clement's puzzling distinction is fuelling the debate raging on Parliament Hill over the niqab, which Prime Minister Stephen Harper has called the product of an anti-women culture. THE CANADIAN PRESS

#dresscodePM

PM gets flak on social media

Twitter users across the country took Prime Minister Stephen Harper to task Wednesday over what they feel is his government's inconsistent position on the niqab. Harper and members of his cabinet have said the traditional Muslim face-covering veil shouldn't be worn during citizenship ceremonies. Twitter users, often wearing veils themselves, used selfies to ask Harper if their outfits were PM-approved.

@Amnamaq: Stephen Harper forgive me for I have sinned, I dressed without your consent this morning #DressCodePM #Doyouapprove

@geekylonglegs: do you like how my hijab matches my mug of your male tears? stop telling women how to dress @pmharper #dresscodePM

@ryanknighton: @pryanknighton: Raining in Vancouver today. My eight-year-old daughter doesn't want to wear her rain coat. Please legislate. #dresscodePM

TAKARA SMALL/METRO



In this image taken from video, a soldier fires from behind a building in Tikrit, Iraq, Wednesday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Soldiers sweep into ISIL-held Tikrit

Iraq. Allied militiamen breach one of biggest extremist strongholds

Iraqi soldiers and allied Shiite militiamen launched a two-front offensive in the ISIL-held city of Tikrit on Wednesday to squeeze extremists out of Saddam Hussein's hometown in a major test of the troops' resolve.

Explosions and heavy gunfire echoed through Tikrit, a key way station for Iraqi forces trying to expel the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant, who hold roughly a third of the country and neighbouring Syria. The offensive also will serve as a major crucible for Iraqi forces, which collapsed under the extremists' initial offensive last year and now face street-by-street fighting in one of ISIL's biggest strongholds.

Allied Iraqi forces first entered the city through its northern Qadisiyya neighbourhood, according to video obtained by The Associated Press.

Authorities offered no immediate casualty figures, though Iran's state-run Press TV satellite channel reported that a mortar attack wounded one of its cameramen there.

Strategic move

- **Taking Tikrit would open a supply line for a future operation to besiege Mosul, Iraq's second-largest city that remains under ISIL control.**

Later Wednesday, allied forces also swept into Tikrit from the south in a pincer movement to squeeze out militants, though some suggested many already fled in the face of the advance, codenamed "At your service, prophet of Allah."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Florida

All 11 presumed dead in crash

Human remains and helicopter parts were recovered Wednesday after seven Marines and four soldiers crashed in heavy fog during military training in Florida.

All 11 service members were presumed dead after the Army National Guard's UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter went down offshore, a Pentagon official said.

President Barack Obama spoke with the military leaders involved and expressed his condolences to the families before saying he's confident of a detailed investigation, said his spokesman, Josh Earnest.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ferguson. Chief resigns after scathing report

The police chief in the St. Louis suburb of Ferguson resigned Wednesday in the wake of a scathing Justice Department report prompted by the fatal shooting of an unarmed black 18-year-old by a white police officer.

The city said in a statement it reached a mutual separation agreement with Chief Thomas Jackson, who will get a severance payment and health insurance for a year. Lt. Col. Al Eickhoff will become acting chief March 19 while the city searches for a replacement.

Jackson had previously resisted calls by protesters and some of Missouri's top elected leaders to step down over his handling of the August shooting of Michael Brown and the weeks of sometimes-violent protests that followed.

Jackson told the St. Louis Post-Dispatch that he felt it was time for the city to move on. "I believe this is the appropriate thing to do at this time," Jackson said.

Jackson becomes the sixth employee to resign or be fired after the U.S. Department of Justice last week issued a report that cleared Officer Darren Wilson of civil rights charges in the shooting but found a profit-driven court system and widespread racial bias in the city police department.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Flight attendant sues over nut rage

Law. Korean Air heiress will be held responsible for damage to employee's career, reputation, and emotional well-being, statement says

A flight attendant who says she was living her dream by working for Korean Air is now suing the airline and its infamous nut rage executive, claiming the bizarre onboard tantrum ruined her career.

Kim Do Hee, the flight attendant, is seeking compensation through a trial in New York City after she was verbally and physically attacked by Korean Air heiress Cho Hyun-ah, according to a statement on Wednesday by two American law firms.

It is the first civil lawsuit connected with the nut rage case, which infuriated South Koreans and hogged global headlines. Last month, a South Korean court sentenced Cho, 40, to one year in prison for violating aviation security laws, using violence against a flight attendant and other charges. Cho, who is the daughter of Korean Air's chairman, has appealed the ruling from prison.

The summons filed Monday said Cho screamed obscenities at Kim and hit and threatened her.

The summons said she was also pressured to lie to government investigators to cover up the incident and to appear in public with Cho "as part of an orchestrated effort to try and rehabilitate Cho's public image,"

Kim is seeking compensatory damages and punitive damages in an amount to be determined at the trial.

Kim said Korean Air was her dream job since she was a high school student, but after false rumours spread on the Internet about her accepting a professorship in exchange for lying to investigators, she could not return to work as a flight attendant.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The incident

Cho Hyun-ah, a vice-president overseeing cabin service at the time of the Dec. 5 incident, was enraged that Kim Do Hee, 27, served her macadamia nuts in a bag, not on a dish.

- **After a heated confrontation with crew in the first-class cabin, Cho ordered head flight attendant Park Chang-jin off the plane, forcing it to return to a gate at John F. Kennedy International Airport.**



Ban on selfie sticks grows at tourist sites

The Chateau de Versailles, outside Paris, and the National Gallery in London have joined the growing list of global tourist attractions that have banned "selfie sticks." The devices are used by visitors such as American tourists Chris Baker and Jennifer Hinson, pictured here in front of the Louvre Pyramid in Paris, to improve snapshots, but critics say the practice is obnoxious and potentially dangerous. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

CRTC fines U.S. firm for scorning do not call rules

The U.S.-based company responsible for those pesky calls proclaiming that you've won a cruise has been fined $200,000 for breaking telemarketing rules.

In addition to paying the penalty, Florida-based Consolidated Travel Holdings Group Inc. has agreed to stop making unsolicited telemarketing calls telling Canadians they had won a free cruise to the Bahamas in exchange for answering a survey.

The Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission launched its investigation after hearing complaints from Canadians.

The federal regulator worked with the U.S. Federal Trade Commission to investigate the complaints.

The CRTC said Caribbean Cruise Line, which is owned by Consolidated Travel Holdings Group Inc., used an automatic dialing-announcing device to offer cruises to Canadians, including many who have their phone number registered on the national do not call list.

"We are pleased to report that Caribbean Cruise Line co-operated with our investigation and has now voluntarily ceased making unsolicited telemarketing calls to Canadian consumers," Manon Bombardier, the CRTC's chief compliance and enforcement officer, said in a statement.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Do not call list

The national do not call list was launched in 2008 and has more than 12.7 million numbers registered.

Rental cars

Two firms accused of false advertising

The Competition Bureau has accused Avis and Budget of false or misleading advertising, alleging their prices are not attainable due to additional fees. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Market Minute

DOLLAR 78.36¢ (-0.5¢)

Natural gas: $2.824 US (+ 9.2¢)
Dow Jones: 17,635.39 (- 27.55)

TSX 14,739.20 (+ 97.44)

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GOLD $1,150.60 US (- $9.50)

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VOICES

CITIZEN SCIENTISTS UNITE!

Research projects led by those outside academia aren't supported, published or taken seriously, but that should change



STEPHANIE ORFORD
readers@metronews.ca



Tourists take pictures of a humpback whale. Amateur whale watchers can report sightings as part of the B.C. Cetacean Sightings Network, but the vast majority of citizen scientists today just do the grunt work. RODRIGO BUENDIA/AFP/GETTY IMAGES FILE

You don't need a PhD to have a great idea, so why do you need a PhD to publish it?

Many of us have ideas that, given research and a platform to share it, could change the way we live. More people outside academia are getting their hands dirty with scientific research.

A few weeks ago, the first-ever Citizen Science Meeting was held at Cornell University. But right now, research projects led by citizen scientists aren't supported, published or taken seriously.

Scientific research needs to go public.

A citizen scientist is anyone in the public who participates in scientific study. You could be one. Numerous projects around the world already see academic scientists tap citizen scientists to collect their data — like crowdfunding, but for information.

Amateur whale watchers report sightings as part of the B.C. Cetacean Sightings Network. The University of Calgary-based Aurorasaurus project tracks the aurora through Twitter.

But the vast majority of citizen scientists today just do the grunt work. They don't contribute ideas. Academic institutions and publications still control much of what research is pursued, funded and recognized. Only a select few can currently participate in scientific discovery and be recognized for it.

Many of the world's greatest inventions and discoveries were made outside the walls of academia.

Working out of his shop, a Dutch eyeglasses maker named Hans Lippershey invented the technology behind the telescope, which Galileo used to discover craters on the moon and confirm that the Earth orbits the sun. German goldsmith Johannes Gutenberg invented the movable-type printing press, which put books in the hands of regular Europeans, not just the aristocracy and the church.

Today, however, peer-reviewed academic journals are the gatekeepers of what science is accepted, talked about and built upon, and right now, for the most part, only researchers from academic institutions are able to publish there.

There just aren't supports in Canada that allow citizen scientists conducting their own experiments or studies to get peer reviewed and to publish their findings, says David Lawrie, program director of Canada's Citizen Scientists, a group of researchers formed out of Toronto in 2003 who collect data about the health of the Rouge River watershed.

Plenty of tools are out there for citizen scientists. Science crowdfunding sites like petridish.org and experiment.com help generate funds, and there are a couple citizen science journals, but the citizen science sea change won't happen until ordinary people can get better recognition for their research.

"For citizen scientists, it takes a lot of time and effort to publish in a journal for essentially almost no reward," says Lawrie.

We also need more incentives to encourage people from more diverse backgrounds to get involved in researching and shaping what we know about the world. They need things like grants, awards, prizes, the honour of being published.

Lawrie would like to see more monetary support for citizen scientists and "a very effective platform to help disseminate the information to the broader public."

Encouraging citizen research would generate more discoveries, and they would happen faster. More diverse people would be able to pursue more diverse topics that are currently underrepresented in academia.

Thanks to data collection by citizen scientists, the eBird network has millions of sightings that have helped focus conservation efforts. Think of how much more we could accomplish with a world full of scientists.

One criticism of citizen research is that reliability and validity of the research can't be controlled as it is in academia.

So let's find ways of fixing that: peer-review panels to vet the quality of citizen research; ethics boards that make sure their projects are above board; a government granting body that endorses and supports promising projects; a central resource where citizen scientists can find out how to conduct research with rigour so they can produce meaningful results.

Cheap, easily accessible technologies are making it easy to collect, analyze and communicate information.

Let's use them to unleash the public brain.

Stephanie Orford is a writer based in Vancouver.

Why being strapped to our tech may actually set us free



MELISSA DUNNE
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I have a confession to make: I want an Apple Watch — badly.

Ever since Apple Inc. CEO Tim Cook finally officially revealed the prices and release date of the trio of smart watches Monday, there has been a stream of haters calling the latest offering from the Cupertino, Calif., company stupid, gauche and ridiculously overpriced.

A Gawker writer actually called on readers to take a pledge to not sleep with anyone who dons the gadget. A certain Metro web editor seemed horrified to hear I wanted one. As Taylor Swift sings: Haters gonna hate, hate, hate.

Sure, I'll admit: no one needs an Apple Watch — but then, no one needs a smartphone either, and most of us have one.

While I personally like the design of the watches, some people think they're clunky and weird, and I concede it may be difficult to not look like a lemming or a fashion victim wearing one.

And, uh, yes, the watches are overpriced. The Apple Watch Edition (18-karat gold) will start at a heart-stopping $13,000, the Apple Watch starts at $699 and the Apple Watch Sport is the cheapest option, starting at $449 in Canada.

Yet, despite all that, I still desperately want one. As a runner, I love the idea of having GPS, a heart-rate sensor and an accelerometer — as well as access to Wi-Fi. I'm well aware that the numbers these devices spit out are far from perfect, but it's still nice to be able to get an idea of how hard I'm working when I'm working out.

And as a woman I love that I can now free myself of the tyranny of carrying around so much stuff everywhere I go.

I mean, the watch tells you the time without having to pull out your phone and it's strapped to your wrist so it's harder to lose.

And while you still need your phone nearby, you can pay for things with the watch and check your Twitter feed on it. You can even use it to call a cab. What can't it do? Don't answer that; it's a rhetorical question.

I seem to be swimming against the stream on this one, but I think now is the time for an Apple Watch. Well, not now, now. I'll wait for the kinks to be worked out and the prices to come down (fingers crossed).

Then I'll sport my watch with pride.

Melissa Dunne is a freelance writer based in Toronto.

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Shad's here to give you all he can

Juno award-winning rapper Shad faces the shadow of Jian Ghomeshi when he takes over hosting duties of Q on April 20. Ghomeshi, who helped make Q popular among younger listeners, was fired from the CBC four months ago. So, how will Shad match up against the former host?

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD
Metro News in Toronto

Ego

Shad: Friends describe him as confident, but also modest and humble, almost to a fault. "He's never struck me as a person that's seeking or needing the validation of others," said Seattle hip-hop radio host and friend, Jonathan Moore. In a CBC news story on the announcement, Shad downplayed his own prominence, calling his new role "an honour" and praising the producers as a "brilliant, passionate team."

Ghomeshi: In the wake of Ghomeshi's firing and allegations of sexual assault, former staffers have come out to charge Ghomeshi with having an outsized ego. Former staff have described Ghomeshi as an oppressive and perfectionist boss, whose will was the law.

Radio experience

Shad: He's had a lot of time behind the microphone, but in terms of hosting a radio show, Shad's main efforts were as a guest host for Q in January for a week.

Ghomeshi: He had a number of smaller broadcasting gigs before launching Q in 2007, including on CBC TV as the host of the pop culture program Play, and later as the host of a series of music shows on CBC Radio One, including a stint on Sounds Like Canada.

Accolades

Shad: The musician has been racking up praise for his music for the past 10 years. He won the 2011 Juno award for Rap Recording of the Year, beating out Drake, and his albums have been nominated for other Junos, MuchMusic Video Awards and the Polaris Prize.

Ghomeshi: As a musician, Ghomeshi's career was less decorated. But as host of Q, he won the Gold Award for best talk-show host at the New York Festivals International Radio Awards in 2012. He was also praised around the world for taking on Billy Bob Thornton in a prickly 2009 interview.



Musical

Shad: A veteran of the hip-hop world, Shad has released four albums, two mixtapes and four EPs. The Old Prince is considered his breakout album, he won the Juno for TSOL, and his most recent release came last year, with Flying Colours. He makes "culturally curious hip hop (that's) eclectic, witty, thoughtful, funny," said music writer and Polaris Prize juror Michael Barclay.

Ghomeshi: As the singer and drummer in the satirical folk-pop band Moxy Früvous, Ghomeshi recorded eight albums. The band released platinum-selling records, and made Ghomeshi a name in Canadian music, but "by the time he started working at the CBC, his music career was kind of a joke," said Barclay.

X Factor

Shad: As yet unproven as a host, Shad has ample proof of his charisma on stage. The MC is confident and intelligent, but not arrogant, Moore said. "He's curious and interesting. He will bring energy to the show," Barclay said.

Ghomeshi: There's no doubt that Q's popularity became entwined with Ghomeshi's own star power. Known as a gracious radio host, he also didn't cower to well-known interview subjects — he once sarcastically corrected Julian Assange for calling him by the show's name. A charismatic man in person, Ghomeshi's confidence shone on air, and the way he connected with guests and drew out their stories undoubtedly helped forge Q's reputation as a cultural powerhouse and a must-do interview.

New show serves up a royal helping of scandal

The Royals. Viewers treated to foibles of fictional regal family

There's little to take seriously in the campy new drama The Royals — a show from E network about the scandalous lives of a fictional royal family.

But amidst all the mayhem, there is at least a modicum of attention paid to portraying proper regal behaviour, which co-star Alexandra Park credits to her "very English" co-star, Elizabeth Hurley.

The Australian actress, who plays rebellious princess Eleanor to Hurley's imperious Queen Helena, says the Austin Powers star acted as a bit of an informal etiquette expert on set, pointing out little-known dos and don'ts as filming went on. "She's like, 'No, we would never have that colour flowers for this event. And you can't wear that,'" Park recalled in a recent phone interview from Los Angeles. "She just knows everything. It's crazy."

Park said Hurley and co-star Joan Collins lend a dash of Hollywood majesty to the over-the-top series, which revels in the ignoble exploits of a royal brood sent reeling when the heir apparent dies suddenly.

Rather than allude too much to the lives of actual royals, Moseley said the series makes a point of charting its own outlandish course. "You have a girl serving food in a French maid outfit — you know what I mean? Which obviously wouldn't happen in the royal palace."

The Royals' debuts Sunday on E network.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



The Royals debuts Sunday on E network. CONTRIBUTED

SEE WHAT'S NEW... CHECK OUT OUR LATEST OFFER ON PAGE 18 SHOPPERS DRUG MART

Verdict blurs lines on paying homage to musical influences

Copyright. Williams and Thicke's $7.4M court loss could cause chilling effect on creation of music



Pharrell Williams and Robin Thicke have been ordered to pay nearly $7.4 million to the late Marvin Gaye's three children for a copyright infringement. GETTY IMAGES

A jury's verdict that Pharrell Williams and Robin Thicke copied Marvin Gaye's music to create their hit song Blurred Lines won't just be felt by the singers' pocketbooks — it has the potential to change how musicians work and could open the door to new copyright claims.

An eight-person jury determined Tuesday that Williams and Thicke copied elements of Gaye's 1977 hit Got to Give It Up and ordered the pair to pay nearly $7.4 million to the late singer's three children.

The music industry may feel new constraints in the coming years as artists — and lawyers — sort through the verdict and its implications.

Howard King, lead attorney for Thicke and Williams, told jurors in closing arguments that a verdict for the Gaye family would have a chilling effect on musicians' trying to evoke an era or create an homage to the sound of earlier musicians. Williams contended during the trial that he was only trying to mimic the "feel" of Gaye's late 1970s music, but insisted he did not use elements of his idol's work. "Today's successful verdict, with the odds more than stacked against the Marvin Gaye estate, could redefine what copyright infringement means for recording artists," said Glen Rothstein, an intellectual property attorney with the firm Greenberg Glusker.

"The Gaye verdict is precedential in that whereas prior to today, it was generally understood that paying homage to musical influences was an acceptable, and indeed commonplace way of conducting business and even showing respect for one's musical idols, after today, doubt has been cast on where the line will be drawn for copyright infringement purposes," Rothstein said.

The Gaye family will seek an injunction against Blurred Lines, which will give them leverage to negotiate for royalties and other concessions such as songwriting credits.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Well, that sounds familiar

AVRIL VS. THE RUBINOOS



Although she insisted she had never heard the '70s tune I Wanna Be Your Boyfriend by the Rubinoos, Avril Lavigne agreed to an out-of-court settlement involving her hit song Girlfriend.



EX-BEATLE VS. THE CHIFFONS



Former Beatle George Harrison's 1970 solo song My Sweet Lord had a melody heavy with echoes of He's So Fine, the 1962 hit from The Chiffons. A judge said Harrison was guilty only of "subconscious plagiarism." Harrison would eventually pay out $587,000.



TOM PETTY VS. SAM SMITH



Tom Petty's publishers said Sam Smith's Stay With Me's melody bore a striking resemblance to Petty's I Won't Back Down. Smith and his representatives agreed, and granted co-writing credit to Petty.



ALL PORTRAITS GETTY IMAGES; TOP RIGHT PHOTOS ARE ALBUM COVERS

Tribeca Film Festival



John Cleese GETTY IMAGES

Monty Python celebrates 40 years of the Holy Grail

The surviving members of the British comedy troupe Monty Python will be making a special appearance at the Tribeca Film Festival in New York next month to help mark the 40th anniversary of their cult classic film Monty Python and the Holy Grail. John Cleese, Terry Gilliam, Eric Idle, Terry Jones, and Michael Palin will reunite at the Beacon Theatre April 24 for a special screening of the 1975 film.

The feature-length documentary Monty Python: The Meaning of Live will also get its world premiere at the TFF, exploring the comedic genius behind members of the British comedy group. Tickets will go on sale March 23. AFP

Fashion. Jeanne Beker premieres new show on The Shopping Channel



Jeanne Beker
THE CANADIAN PRESS

After 27 years spent primarily profiling designers as host of Fashion Television, Jeanne Beker is opting for a fresh take on fashion aimed at helping viewers maximize their style potential.

The fashion and media maven is returning to the airwaves with Style Matters with Jeanne Beker, which has its two-hour premiere Thursday at 8 p.m. ET on the Shopping Channel. Full episodes will be available online at tsc.ca the following day.

Three years since the cancellation of the long-running FT, Beker said she has felt fortunate to continue making regular TV appearances — albeit in "very conventional ways."

"I was being used for the regular red carpet commentary or to give my opinion about this or that — which is all great," the affable Beker said in an interview.

"But I felt that it was high time to do something new and exciting again."

With Style Matters, Beker draws on part of the formula that made FT a trail-blazing success, with plans to shoot segments in the field featuring interviews with designers or showroom tours.

She will anchor the show live from the studio, with one-hour and two-hour editions hoping to guide viewers toward translating notable styles featured onscreen into their own wardrobes. The debut episode will include a visit to the Museum at the Fashion Institute of Technology in New York which recently opened a special exhibition on Yves Saint Laurent and Halston, two of the most influential designers of the 1970s.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Gossip

NED EHRBAR

METRO'S TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES





Mindy Kaling ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Mindy Kaling can't do one-night stands

Art, it seems, doesn't imitate life when it comes to Mindy Kaling, who is finding that the wild dating life of her The Mindy Project alter ego is screwing up what men expect from her in her own life.

"When I go on dates there's this expectation that I'm going to have, like, 11 martinis and like, pass out and spend the night really soon. And I think people get a little disappointed because my true self is like, I could never do that, like have a one-night stand," the single actress and writer tells Ellen DeGeneres during an interview.

"Because I have my medications that I have to take at night. I have to be at my house and do my flossing. I have all that stuff."

Hey, maybe some guys are into flossing.

50 cent's son pulls in huge salary for a two-year-old

I never thought that toddlers needed agents, but when you hear how much 50 Cent's two-year-old son, Sire Jackson, pulled down for a modelling contract, you might not think it's such a crazy idea.

"He's got a (modelling) deal now with Kidz



Safe," the rapper revealed to Angie Martinez at Power 105 during an interview.

"They paid him a big payment, too."

And by big, he means a contract worth $700,000. No, seriously. That's a lot of binkies.

"He's cute, you gotta pay for it," Fiddy explained. He also assured listeners that the money is going into a trust until Jackson is 18 years old.

Renée steps out in Paris

A chic Renée Zellweger — who attracted attention last fall for a noticeably changed visage — at first hid her face from cameras with Audrey Hepburn-style bangs and large shades Wednesday as she hit Prada's Miu Miu show on the last day of the ready-to-wear collections in Paris.

Inside the show, however, she took off the shades and proudly posed for cameras — maybe she is "happy," after all. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/METRO



Tony says 'I do' to Gaga wedding gig



Tony Bennett and Lady Gaga

Singing at Lady Gaga's wedding would likely be a pretty nerve-racking prospect for even the most seasoned of young musicians, so it makes sense that the chameleon-like singer would go for someone who can handle the pressure.

Enter pal Tony Bennett, who is reportedly on tap to croon at Gaga's upcoming nuptials. "They invited me to do it, and of course I will," he tells Page Six.

Now, you can accuse me of being cynical or unromantic, that's fine, but I can't help noticing that Gaga and Bennett, who released their Cheek to Cheek duets album last fall, are embarking on a tour next month. What a coincidence!

Shooting at Lil Wayne's a hoax



Lil Wayne

An apparent hoax summoned a strong police response Wednesday to the home of rapper Lil Wayne after an unknown caller reported a shooting.

The caller claimed four people had been shot at the waterfront home on an exclusive Miami Beach island.

The responding officers, including a heavily armed SWAT team, found no evidence of a shooting, no victims and no gunman. "We can say for sure it was a hoax," Miami Beach police spokesman Ernesto Rodriguez said. "It's not a laughing matter."

Rodriguez also said the owner of the home — Lil Wayne, whose real name is Dwayne Michael Carter — was not there at the time. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Flirting with danger at Paris Fashion Week



Stella McCartney's gentle beauty

Hitting the on-trend spot, Stella McCartney sensually explored styles of undressing for fall-winter 2015, with a hint of the corset.

Gone were many of the sporty shapes that are now associated with her esthetic — and in their place were silhouettes, cinched chicly with a belt at the waist or bustier-shaped. Elsewhere, there were voluminous "comfort" shapes on beautiful loose knit sweater-dresses in earth tones, which would fall nonchalantly off one arm — as if in a state of undress.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Hermès designer shows powerful debut

For her debut collection at power house Hermès, new designer Nadège Vanhee-Cybulski pared down the house esthetic, to subtle, yet powerful, results. Narrowing down the palette to navy, cobalt blue, ivory, carmine red and flashes of sunshine yellow, the 36-year-old French designer used simple minimalist shapes that drew from Oriental styles to bold effect.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Saint Laurent's sex-infused, '80s grit and glam

Fashion's wild child Hedi Slimane upped the sexiness in his latest offering for Saint Laurent, with thick eye makeup, whitened faces, torn tights and a flirtation with the styles of the '80s New Romantics.

The stomping models were still here in this latest chapter of the controversial French-Tunisian's evolution at the house, as were the glittering glam rock fleeces, black boots, black leather minis, and the figure-hugging leopard print cocktail dresses.

It felt like the new Saint Laurent girl had grown up a little bit, moved into the early '80s and discovered sex. A tight black leather zip-up minidress was undone nearly to the crotch, while one truncated bridal dress was twinned with a tuxedo and looked like the heady bride had ditched her man at the altar and gone to the disco.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Louis Vuitton's leather and lace

Nicolas Ghesquière, artistic director, manages to mix a certain simplicity with technical expertise. The lace looks like collages on dresses and tops, with just a chain for a belt. Shoulders are highlighted, exaggerated and gathered. Skirts are worn short with pockets, paired with sublime leather jackets, embroidered sheepskin or even zipped blouses. The gold and silver shine is the focus, sparkly but with a simplicity at the same time.

GETTY IMAGES

Kenzo embraces layers and lines

This season's mantra is: Pile it all on. We've seen it notably at Lanvin, Dries Van Noten — and now at Kenzo's draped, voluminous and colourful fashion spectacle.

The collection continued this energy in its vivid splashes of kinetic graphic lines and flashes of contrasting, coloured prints.

But fall-winter was all about the layering.

Geometric lines featured on layered A-line column dresses, topped off with funky asymmetrical poncho-hoods.

Kenzo is all about the cultural fusion. The dark looks featured a nice play of camouflage print on a poncho and assorted jungle pants: If you looked closely you realized the pattern was, in fact, of very un-militaristic flowers.

It was tongue in cheek, and is bound to be a hit. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



GETYY IMAGES

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These little lights, let 'em shine

Lighting can make or break the lookand mood of your home, from uninviting over-lit rooms to paintings that disappear because there's no light. Every room needs three sources of lighting: accent, task and ambient. Here are the best forms of these lights and how to use them in a room



DESIGN CENTRE
Karl Lohnes
home@metronews.ca

Accent lighting

Accent lighting creates a moody environment and helps to brighten dark corners and highlight art. It's great as a night light to welcome you when you come home late or when you don't want your house completely dark at night. Highlighting a plant, sculpture or painting an easy way to add a spark of light to a room without totally illuminating it.



Create drama: Shine a light through your houseplants to create an exotic atmosphere. Canarm Theo Adjustable Lamp, $30, HomeDepot.ca



Wall hung: Highlight a picture or simply wash a wall with light. Reynolds Library Bookcase Sconce, $199, PotteryBarn.com

Under counters: Brighten your countertops in the kitchen with under-counter lighting. Westek Plug-In Cabinet LED Puck Light Kit, $16 per light, Lowes.ca





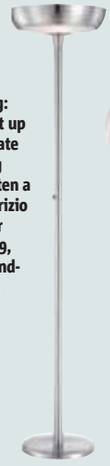
Directed wall hung: Read in bed without getting light in your eyes. Morgan Ivory Sconce, $179, CrateAndBarrel.com

Task lighting

Task lighting is directed light to help you with a task such as reading, preparing food or working on hobbies. A swing-arm reading lamp or under-cupboard kitchen lights are prime examples of task lighting. This type of lighting is best planned after you move into your home and know where you need specific lighting.

Ambient light

Ambient lighting is an overall bright source used in spaces like workshops or laundry rooms. Every room should have them as they are useful for brightening the entire room for cleaning chores or parties. This type of lighting usually comes in the form of an overhead flush-mount light fixture or a torchiere-style floor lamp that directs light onto the ceiling, reflecting it back into the room.



Uplighting: Shine light up to illuminate the ceiling and brighten a room. Fabrizio Steel Floor Lamp, $269, BedBathAndBeyond.ca



Flush-mount ceiling fixture: Illuminate a kitchen or bathroom with overall light. Sienna Flush Mount, $525, Elte.com

Pick a perfect pink piece

This season's living room furniture comes in generous and inviting shapes and wears subtle shades of pink, from peach to pale rosewood. These items are ideal for creating a cosy space to curl up in

AFP



Create a quiet, private space with two-tone collection

All about protection and comfort, the Log and Doolly collection by Désio consists of several folding screens made with Bultex foam, which can be used to create private spaces that are isolated from exterior noise. Matching two-tone sofas and chairs complete the cosy ambiance (from approximately $1,610). DÉSIO

Made of wool, cotton and foam, the Nubilo sofa by Constance Guiset for Petite Friture resembles something between a cloud and a pastry. Macaron-shaped cushions in various sizes and colors are stacked along the sofa for "maximum comfort," according to the designer (approximately $3,280-$4,070). PETITE FRITURE





Pink may not be everyone's favourite colour, but it is always welcome in small touches. One way to add a splash of the colour is cheerful sofa cushion Smanate from Ikea in pink and white gingham (approximately $6). IKEA

For Ligne Roset, French designer Inga Sempé designed Beau Fixe, a two-person sofa that calls to mind a retro airplane seat, only much softer. Sempé was inspired by her memory of a beach chair. To resurrect this item as a comfortable and elegant sofa, she combined a metal structure with a soft comforter (Price available on request).
LIGNE ROSET



Deep-fried goodness

Snack. Wild Ramp and Crab-Stuffed Hushpuppies with Green Goddess Dressing are a Southern U.S. fave


This recipe makes about 32 hushpuppies. PETER FRANK EDWARDS

Hushpuppies

1. Preheat the oven to 400 F. Line two rimmed baking sheets with parchment paper.

2. Bring a saucepan of salted water to a boil. Make an ice bath in a bowl with equal parts ice and water. Put the ramps in a strainer and submerge them in the boiling water for 45 seconds. Remove and submerge them in the ice bath until completely cold. Drain and shake off the water, then drain and dry on paper towels.

3. Chop the ramps into pieces.

4. Put self-rising flour, cornmeal, 1 cup all-purpose flour, salt, sugar, white pepper, baking soda, and baking powder in a large bowl and whisk to mix well. Add onion and half of the chopped ramps and mix well. Lightly beat eggs in a bowl, then whisk in milk, buttermilk, and lard. Stir the wet ingredients into the dry ingredients.

5. Pour the canola oil into a deep fryer or a large pot and heat it to 350 F. While the oil is heating, blend the remaining ramps in a blender on high, adding just enough water to keep them moving, until very smooth, about 4 minutes. Add the purée to the batter.

6. When oil is hot, dip 1-oz scoop into hot oil to coat it, then fill coop with batter and tap it a time or two to release any air pockets. Hold the scoop 1 inch above the hot oil and carefully drop the batter into the oil. If the batter seems too thin, add more all-purpose flour, whisking until smooth. The desired result is a hushpuppy that is golden brown and crispy on the outside and light as a feather inside. When the batter is correct, carefully fold in the crab.

7. Scoop batter into hot oil, without crowding hushpuppies, and fry, without touching them, 1 minute. Carefully tap thushpuppies to loosen if they have stuck to the fryer basket or the bottom of the fryer and fry until golden brown, 7 minutes. Transfer hushpuppies to one of the prepared baking sheets. Repeat until you've used all the batter. Be sure that the oil returns to 350 F before you put in the next batch.

8. Bake hushpuppies about 4 minutes to ensure they are cooked through. Drain on paper towels and serve hot, alongside dressing for dipping.

Green Goddess Dressing

1. Combine mayo, scallions, basil, lemon juice, garlic, anchovies, salt, and white pepper in a blender and blend until smooth. Add sour cream and process until blended. Dressing will keep in the refrigerator up to 5 days. **RECIPES BOTH EXCERPTED FROM HERITAGE BY SEAN BROCK (ARTISAN BOOKS). COPYRIGHT © 2014.**

Ingredients

Hushpuppies
- 1/2 lb ramps, cleaned and hairy root ends removed
- 2 cups self-rising flour
- 2 cups cornmeal
- 1 to 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 tbsp kosher salt
- 1 1/2 tsp sugar
- 1 1/4 tsp white pepper
- 1 1/2 teaspoons each baking soda, and baking powder
- 1/4 cup small onion, diced
- 3 large eggs
- 1 cup whole milk
- 1/2 cup plus 2 tbsp buttermilk
- 1/4 cup lard, melted
- 8 cups canola oil
- 1 1/2 cups fresh crabmeat, picked over for shells, cartilage
- Green Goddess Dressing

Green Goddess Dressing
- 1 cup mayonnaise
- 1 cup chopped scallions
- 1 cup chopped basil
- 3/4 cup fresh lemon juice
- 2 tsp chopped garlic
- 2 oil-packed anchovies
- 2 tsp kosher salt
- 1 tsp ground white pepper
- 1 cup sour cream

Cookbook of the Week

Southern comfort



Sean Brock is out to preserve the heritage foods of the American south with his aptly titled book, Heritage. The offerings include a blend of comfort food and high-end restaurant food. Specific recipes include Pickled Shrimp, Crispy Pig Ear Lettuce Wraps, Slow-Cooked Pork Shoulder with Tomato Gravy and Sweet Potato Doughnuts. **METRO**

Side. Pickled cabbage


This recipe makes four quarts. PETER FRANK EDWARDS

1. Wash and dry the cabbage. Pull off the outer leaves. Stack them a few at a time, roll them into cylinders, and cut them into large ribbons. Core the heads and cut them into quarters, then thinly slice the cabbage.

2. Toss the cabbage and the salt in a large nonreactive container and mix well to combine. Weigh the cabbage down with a plate to keep it submerged in the liquid that will be released.

3. Cover the container with a square of cheesecloth and tie it snugly. Let stand in a cool place for 1 week to cure, then refrigerate. Tightly covered, the cabbage will keep for up to 2 weeks in the refrigerator.

Ingredients

- 3 large heads green cabbage, with large outer leaves
- 1 cup plus 3 tbsp kosher salt

For your phone

3D Around (iPhone; free)



MIND THE APP
Kris Abel
@RealKrisAbel
life@metronews.ca

By circling your camera around your food you can capture a 3D photograph that lets your friends experience your latest creation from all angles with this strangely creative food photography app.





Stressed? Keep the break in March break

Family. Even if you're stuck at work, there is a way to balance work and play time

TANYA ENBERG
For Metro

March break can be a blast for kids, but stressful for parents tasked with the job of finding boredom-busting ways of keeping energetic youngsters busy.

For those unable to book time off, March break can be even more daunting: There is a mad scramble to juggle work, secure reliable childcare, while trying to squeeze in quality family time, said Ann Douglas, bestselling author of The Mother of All Pregnancy Books and The Mother of All Baby Books.

"This can definitely be a challenge — and a major source of stress," Douglas said. "Parents may feel torn between their desire to do what's best for their kids and their desire to meet their obligations at work. The good news is that a lot of families are facing this very same challenge and there are ways to work together to solve the problem."

Consider calling upon personal networks within your community, she said.

"If, for example, you know another family in your neighbourhood trying to line up childcare for the March break, maybe you could split the work week down the middle, with each family taking half a week of vacation — and providing care for their own children and the other family's children on those days — and working half the week."



March break can be a tough time for parents trying to juggle work and family time. SHUTTERSTOCK

Meanwhile, it may be the perfect week to arrange a sleepover at grandma's or a stay with your child's favourite cousin.

For those who can wrangle a vacation day or two, plan a memorable activity. Think ski day, an afternoon at the indoor pool, visit the local craft centre, or play tourists in your own town.

Perhaps avoiding March break crowds is more your speed. No problem: Pick up baking or crafting supplies and enjoy a creative day at home with the kids.

For parents working the whole week, with the help of your children, brainstorm ways to maximize post-work fun. Try filling a jar with activities the family would enjoy and select one each night.

"Tackle a special project, like making videos sharing fun family memories or your memories of your children's baby days," Douglas said.

"Plan a series of dinners with fun and wacky themes — pirate night or picnic at the beach — with each member of the family taking the initiative for planning the menu for a different night. Or schedule some fun outings. It could be as simple as heading to the nearest park to toss a Frisbee around in the snow."

While older kids may not require constant babysitting, they will be seeking ways to stave off boredom.

"Encourage your child to think about what they'd like to do during their week off so that the week doesn't just fly by in a flash," says Douglas.

"Maybe they might want to plan an outing or activity with a friend each day, to provide some structure to their week. Or maybe they'd like to wave the white flag for a couple of days and curl up on the couch with a good book. Kids, like adults, need downtime, too."



A set of headphones and a colouring book can make a long flight zip by for children. SHUTTERSTOCK

Make sure to hit the road right with kids

TINA ANSON MINE
For Metro

Taking your children on the road can expose them to new cultures or simply to some much-needed vitamin D on a sunny beach. Planning is key, but arranging the details — and gear — can be stressful. But with some expert tips, your March break family vacation can actually be relaxing.

When you are planning

Thanks to recent measles outbreaks, vaccinations are a hot topic. For common travel-related illnesses, such as traveller's diarrhea, the choice to vaccinate is a matter of parents' risk tolerance, said Mark Wise, a family physician, who specializes in travel medicine and writes the blog drwise-travel.com.

When you are getting ready to go

How do you bring everything you need without bringing everything you own? "Use a list and check it twice," said Corinne McDermott, the founder of havebabywill-travel.com and a seasoned traveller with two children. McDermott's website offers "the mother of all packing lists" and a "carry-on packing list," which cover everything from toiletries to clothes to consent letters for children travelling with one parent or other adults. And don't forget: "Count your bags and carry-ons and remember the number," McDermott said.

When you arrive

Jet lag can make kids fussy. "For short trips with small changes, it may be worth it to stay on your home time zone," McDermott said. "For bigger trips with greater time changes, start living in your new time zone as much as possible." That means hitting the hay and getting up at your regular times in the new time zone. Fresh air, exercise and sunlight can help get you up to speed more quickly.

When you get home

"It's important to immediately slide back into your usual routine and tolerate a day or two of 'vacation hangover,'" McDermott said. If you can, build in a day at home to relax and wash your mountain of laundry before returning to work and school. If a break isn't possible, jump straight in — there's always coffee to get the grownups through the first day back.



Host X-Men envision hoisting University Cup

CIS hockey. StFX draws tournament's top seed in quarter-final match to be played Friday



KRISTEN LIPSCOMBE
kristen.lipscombe@metronews.ca



St. Francis Xavier X-Men captain Rob Slaney and his teammates are ready for the puck to drop on the 2015 CIS University Cup, running Thursday through Sunday at the Scotiabank Centre in Halifax. MONA GHIZ/AUS

Rob Slaney knows for sure he'll be graduating from St. Francis Xavier University this spring with a human kinetics degree.

What is less certain for Slaney and his St. Francis Xavier X-Men teammates is whether they'll simply host the 2015 CIS University Cup or hoist the nationally coveted men's hockey trophy.

This year's Canadian Interuniversity Sport championship kicks off with quarter-finals today and Friday, continues Saturday with semifinals and concludes Sunday with the medal round. All the action plays out at the Scotiabank Centre in Halifax, the event's first time in Nova Scotia's capital city.

"This weekend will be my last weekend of competitive hockey," the 26-year-old forward from Upper Island Cove, N.L., said Wednesday following a news conference.

"School was always something that was important to me," he said of returning to post-secondary studies after being a staple on the Cape Breton Screaming Eagles and then bouncing around the AHL, ECHL and NLSHL for a few seasons.

Slaney is focused on making his final shot at a national championship a memorable one. "My goal is to play three games (this week) instead of one."

But St. Francis Xavier will be in tough when the puck drops Friday at 7 p.m. against the Alberta Golden Bears, the defending champions and this year's top-seeded team.

"If we play our systems, if we play our game, that's going to give us a chance to win," Slaney said.

The X-Men earned their bye to nationals as hosts, although they had a decent Atlantic University Sport showing, forcing the heavily favoured UNB Varsity Reds to a fifth semifinal game in the best-of-five series.

UNB went on to claim the AUS championship — its fourth in five seasons — and enter this year's CIS championship ranked second overall.

"We're coming in as the eighth seed, so a lot of people don't expect too much out of us," Slaney said. "But our guys in the room, we believe; we know what we can do."

Next year, he's headed to Memorial University's medical school in St. John's.

But for the moment, his mind remains on hockey.

"Being two hours away from Antigonish, we're going to have a lot of fans in the stands," Slaney said.

"To finally see our hard work pay off, and maybe have the opportunity to lift that Cup — it would make it all worth it."

University Cup schedule

THURSDAY
Quarter-final 1: Calgary Dinos vs. Guelph Gryphons, 1 p.m.
Quarter-final 2: Windsor Lancers vs. UNB Varsity Reds, 7 p.m.

FRIDAY
Quarter-final 3: Acadia Axemen vs. UQTR Patriotes, 1 p.m.
Quarter-final 4: St. Francis Xavier X-Men vs. Alberta Golden Bears, 7 p.m.

SATURDAY
Semifinal 1: QF 1 winner vs. QF 2 winner, 7 p.m.
Semifinal 2: QF 3 winner vs. QF 4 winner, 7 p.m.

SUNDAY
Bronze-medal game, 1 p.m.
Gold-medal game, 7 p.m.

All games at the Scotiabank Centre. Check out www.ucuphfx.ca for the broadcast schedule.

Tigers on the prowl for men's CIS championship



The Dalhousie Tigers enter the Final 8, which tips off today in Toronto, as the fifth-ranked team. JEFF HARPER/METRO

The Dalhousie Tigers worked hard to earn their stripes on the court this season.

They're hoping to prove it once again, this time for the CIS men's basketball championship at the Final 8 tournament, which starts today and runs through Sunday at Ryerson University in Toronto.

"Everybody's ready," Dalhousie head coach Rick Plato of their quarter-final matchup at 1 p.m. ET against the Victoria Vikes, who come in ranked fourth in the country, compared to fifth for the Tigers.

"No excuses, that's for sure."

It's that determination that helped the Dalhousie Tigers, considered underdogs to start the season, to its 2015 Atlantic University Sport championship. They topped the Saint Mary's Huskies 88-78 in overtime March 1 to make it happen.

Back-to-back-to-back champs

3

Saint Mary's women's basketball team has won three straight AUS titles

"We've got a pretty good game plan," Plato said.

"Now we just have to go out and execute it."

Meanwhile at Laval University in Quebec City, the Saint Mary's Huskies are "looking forward to the challenge ahead" at the women's Final 8, according to head coach Scott Munro.

The sixth-ranked Huskies hit the floor against the third-ranked McGill Martlets today at 12:30 p.m. ET in quarter-final action.

The Huskies claimed their third straight AUS title by beating the UPEI Panthers 59-51, also March 1 in Halifax.

"Hopefully, we play our best basketball … of the year," Munro said. KRISTEN LIPSCOMBE/METRO



Canada fall in Cyprus final

Canada captain Christine Sinclair challenges for the ball with Alex Greenwood of England during the Cyprus Cup final at GSP stadium in Nicosia on Wednesday. Lianne Sanderson's 68th-minute goal lifted England to a 1-0 win, marking the first time the Canadian goal had been breached in four games at the tournament. PETROS KARADJIAS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Leafs a shade better than Sabres in shootout

NHL. Buffalo leading race to the bottom, after Eastern Conference clash of cellar-dwellers at ACC



Buffalo's Zach Bogosian knocks the Leafs' Brandon Kozun off the puck in the second period on Wednesday night at Air Canada Centre. RICK MADONIK/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

While Buffalo general manager Tim Murray watched Connor McDavid play for the Erie Otters, the Sabres and the Toronto Maple Leafs faced off with fans of both teams hoping to get hockey's "Next One."

What the Leafs gave the Sabres in the form of turnovers, the Sabres returned with ill-advised penalties that let the game reach overtime. It went all the way to the shootout, and Jonathan Bernier stopped all three shots to give the Leafs a 4-3 win and a second point Wednesday night.

Next month, ping-pong balls will be more valuable than points when the NHL draft lottery determines which team will get the chance to select McDavid first overall. Buffalo (19-42-6) remains in the driver's seat for last place and a 20 per cent chance, three points back of the Edmonton Oilers.

Toronto (27-35-6) passed the Carolina Hurricanes to move into 26th overall with 14 games left. That would give them an 8.5 per cent chance of landing McDavid, whose point streak ended Wednesday night at 27 games as his Otters topped the Niagara IceDogs 3-0.

Tyler Bozak scored the only goal in the shootout after getting the tying goal late in regulation. Brandon Kozun and Leo Komarov also scored for Toronto.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Champions League

PSG chops down Chelsea in London

Thiago Silva sent 10-man Paris Saint-Germain into the Champions League quarter-finals on away goals after a 2-2 draw at Chelsea in extra time of a fiery and ill-disciplined game on Wednesday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



David Luiz celebrates after teammate Thiago Silva's goal against Chelsea on Wednesday in London. GETTY IMAGES

MLB spring training

A-Rod hits first home run after PED odyssey

Alex Rodriguez hit his first home run since returning to the Yankees following a drug suspension in New York's 10-6 loss to the Boston Red Sox.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NHL

Rangers slow down Caps in D.C.

Goalie Cam Talbot and the New York Rangers moved atop the Metropolitan Division by beating the Washington Capitals 3-1 Wednesday night, while overcoming Alex Ovechkin's league-leading 45th goal. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Another day at the off-ice issues

Kadri sits 2 more games

Concerned about a trend of off-ice issues, the Toronto Maple Leafs are holding Nazem Kadri out of the next two games

President Brendan Shanahan said Kadri's problems go beyond being late for a team meeting Sunday, the incident that served as the impetus for this team suspension.

"It's time for him to start making better decisions," Shanahan said Wednesday. "There's a history here and there comes a point in the careers of many hockey players in similar situations, there comes a point where you've got to grow up. Naz is 24 now. This is not something that we felt would benefit him if we swept it under the rug."

Kadri was not available to speak with reporters. On Monday, when he was a healthy scratch against the New York Islanders, the centre said he apologized to teammates and coaches for what he called an "uncharacteristic" mistake.



Nazem Kadri GETTY IMAGES

The Leafs' punishment made it clear this isn't so uncharacteristic. Shanahan said there have been "some incidents" in Kadri's past but refused go into details. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Being all over the place can be a good thing.

92.9 JACK fm
Playing whatever! Whenever!

AUGMENTED REALITY

Stuck on 12 Across? Scan this image with your Metro News app for today's crossword and Sudoku answers. It's OK. No one's watching.

Horoscopes by Sally Brompton

Aries
March 21 - April 20
You may have to rethink your plans over the next few days as Saturn begins a retrograde phase. Don't give up on them completely though.

Taurus
April 21 - May 21
Take a look at your financial position and decide what steps need to be taken to improve your long-term security. Your main priority is to cut back on unnecessary expenses.

Gemini
May 22 - June 21
Know your limits and stay within them. No matter how far or fast you travel it's likely that something will bring you back to earth with a bump.

Cancer
June 22 - July 23
It seems you've finally realized that you have been wasting a lot of time and energy on something that is not worth the effort. It will fade in importance over the next few days.

Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
Saturn, the great taskmaster of the zodiac, is urging you to be realistic about your aims and modest about your abilities.

Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
The time has come to admit that a partnership is not working out as well as you expected. It's no big deal, and it is certainly not your fault. Some people you can do business with and some you cannot.

Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Today, check once, check twice, then check a third time. Whatever you are planning you must make sure you have covered all the angles because a small detail could trip you up.

Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
You will get what you deserve to get today, nothing more and nothing less. Now that you know that you won't be inclined to complain if what you get falls short of expectations.

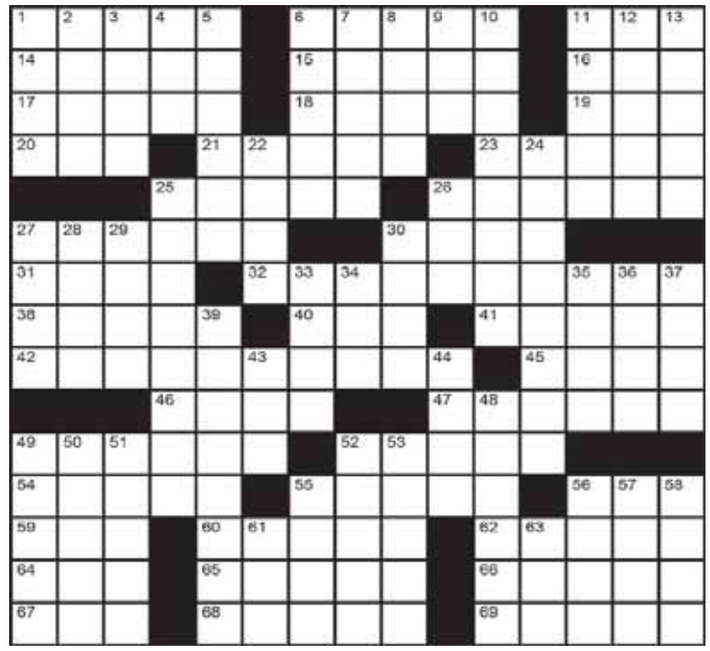
Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Saturn in your sign warns life is not as straightforward as you seem to think. What happens over the next few days will encourage you to plan ahead.

Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
You are convinced that the roof is going to fall in on you. So it will come as a nice surprise today when something wonderful happens instead.

Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
You will have to re-think certain ambitions over the next few days. New information will come to light that will make you realize there is more work involved than you imagined.

Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
Don't get hung-up on long-term career plans. Yes, you can and must keep moving in your favoured direction but there is no need to be so rigid about it.

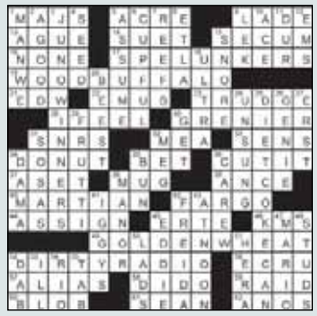
Crossword: Canada Across and Down by Kelly Ann Buchanan



Across
1. "The Brothers __" (2005)
6. One-__ (Biased)
11. Speed __.
14. Mythological weeper
15. Restaurants: "Can I see _ __ please?"
16. "Gimme __ '_'!" (O-T-T-A-W-A cheer-starter)
17. "I now pronounce you..." site
18. Carnivore's dish, __ __ lamb
19. Drivel
20. Ms. Leoni
21. Ms. Kudrow's
23. Senses
25. Late night host Mr. O'Brien
26. Truly
27. Tourist attractions
30. Victoria-born artist Emily
31. In this spot
32. Nissan vehicle
38. Susan's "All My Children" role
40. Old Rome's deuce-ace
41. Harry __ (Sarnia, Ontario born hockey analyst)
42. Canadian fashion brand founded in 2002: 2 wds.
45. Canadian chanteuse Celine
46. Ireland
47. Iago's wife in Shakespearean tragedy Othello
49. Flying flickerers
52. Humdinger
54. Llama catcher
55. A famous Canadian Joe
56. "__ and Away" (1992)
59. Fall Boy link (Rock band)
60. Caffeine nuts
62. Royal adornment
64. Beatles: "_._. _ Love You"
65. Fennel-like flavour
66. Open the compressed computer file
67. 'Racket' suffix
68. Lion mane parts
69. Positioned oneself to pray

Down
1. Irritating fly
2. Vex
3. Whit
4. Commerce grad's letters
5. Bordeaux grape/wine
6. Spicy sauce
7. "_ __ business!"
8. Li'l grad-earned thingies
9. Roxy Music's Brian
10. Toronto subway station
11. Suit jacket flap
12. Counting everything: 2 wds.
13. One of Beatrix Potter's rabbits
22. Police dept. rank
24. Canadian singer The Weeknd's current hit tune off the 'Fifty Shades of Grey' soundtrack album: 2 wds.
25. Classic game
26. UK military fliers
27. FOX News anchor Mr. Smith, to pals
28. Yesterday: Italian
29. Smile
30. __ seeds (Health food store purchase)
33. $uffix to 'Billion'
34. __-for-tat
35. __ Eireann (Lower House of the Irish legislature)
36. H.G. Wells people
37. Blue Rodeo song
39. Northwestern Ontario town, the 'Canoeing Capital of Canada'
43. MGM's motto, __ Gratia Artis
44. At hand
48. Whale skin/blubber treat in the Arctic
49. Gradient
50. PVR remote button
51. Active
52. Uninterested
53. Lets up
55. Cut short
56. Unnerve
57. Seed's jacket
58. Transfixed
61. Judi Dench/Cate Blanchett movie, "Notes __ _ Scandal" (2006)
63. Stopover accommodation

Yesterday's Crossword



Online

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers

Conceptis Sudoku by Dave Green

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.



Yesterday's Sudoku

4	8	9	1	2	3	5	6	7
2	3	7	5	9	6	4	1	8
5	6	1	7	8	4	3	2	9
7	5	4	9	1	2	6	8	3
3	2	6	8	4	5	7	9	1
9	1	8	3	6	7	2	5	4
8	4	5	2	7	1	9	3	6
6	9	3	4	5	8	1	7	2
1	7	2	6	3	9	8	4	5



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SNOW MUST GO!

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